

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 10, 23-39 and 43 have been allowed. Claims 4, 6-8, 11, 15-22 and 40-42 have now been cancelled. Claim 44 is newly added.

Claims 9 and 12-14 have been objected-to.

Section 102 Rejections

Claims 4, 6-8, 11, 15-22 and 40-42 have been rejected as being anticipated by Yamamoto. Applicants have now cancelled these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10, 23-39 and 43 have been allowed.

Claims 9 and 12-14 have been objected-to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have now amended claim 9 by combining it with the features of claim 6.

Applicants have amended claim 12 by canceling its dependency from claim 11. Amended claim 12 now depends only from allowable claim 10. Claim 12 is in condition for allowance.

Newly added claim 44 includes the features of claim 11 (now cancelled) and the features of claim 12 (as originally dependent from claim 11). Claim 44 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 13 has been amended by combining it with the features of cancelled claim 11. Claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 depends from amended claim 13 and is now also in condition for allowance.



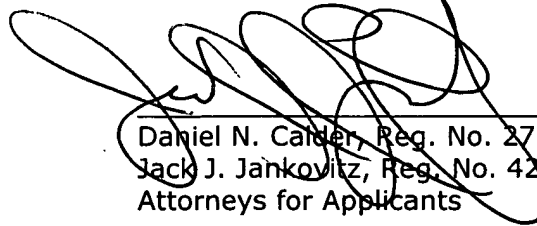
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CONCLUSION

Objected-to claims 9 and 12-14 and newly added claim 44 are now in condition for allowance, along with the other allowed claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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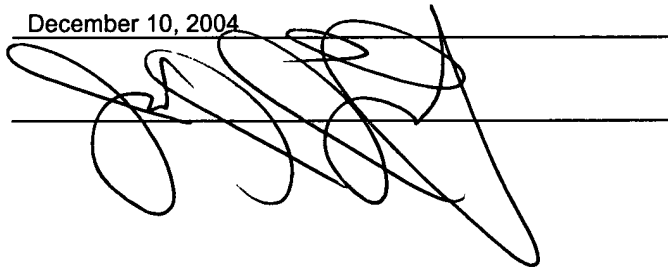
Dated: December 10, 2004

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